ARROW COMICS
$1.50
#2
FANTASTIC FANZINE

Ye Good Ol' Editors Page

WELCOME BACK FOLKS!

Well, whadda ya know? By now you're holding the second great issue of FANTASTIC FANZINE in your sweaty palms.

And now back to the origin of this rag... Issue number five, published in February '85, supported a JOHNNY GAMBIT cover by the local record spinning DJ, Alan D. Oldham. This issue was printed a little larger than most of our following issues, but , hey, we were still experimenting. By issue six, we finally hit it big time; Capital Distribution finally picked us up and our print run went up to nearly six hundred. And, believe me, for us, that was big time. Also fans of Randy Zimmerman will love this one, for it contains eleven pages of his work, including a stunning cover illo.

Issue seven had a Don Simpson MEGATON MAN cover and interview inside. This issue also premiered the artwork and story of one Mr. Guy Davis.

Issue eight featured a great cover by Mark Bloodworth of FANTASTIC FANZINE's own hero FELONIOUS KATT.

Issue nine had a Guy Davis cover and included the first work by DEADWORLD artist Vince Locke. It also had a TYGYR VANCE story by Varcel's Vixens creator Susan Van Camp.

Issue ten was printed smaller than most of our other issues, but Mr. Bloodworth's cover still popped right out. This was around the time plans were made to launch our ARROW COMICS line.

Issue eleven had a fantastic cover illustration by Vince Locke. Along with a Eastman and Laird interview inside.

All this brings us to my favorite issue, number twelve. It had a jam cover, starring most of the characters ever to appear in the zine to date. "Let's Win A Universe" contained work by Guy Davis, Randy Zimmerman, Susan Van Camp, Mark Bloodworth, Mark Winfrey, Tim Dzon, Vince Locke, Lex Morris, Stuart Kerr, and myself. It was a humorous tale of galactic proportions. Anything more will give it away, so you'll have to try and find a copy somewhere. Maybe we'll be able to reprint it at a later date.

All of this bring us to our final issue of our first volume, number fourteen (yes, we skipped issue thirteen for superstitious reasons), which had a Mark Bloodworth cover. Since ARROW COMICS was a bonafide success, it was decided to start the fanzine over with issue number one, volume two.

However by that time, ARROW COMICS had started to take up more and more time, and so we announced in our first issue that our new number one was to be the last FANTASTIC FANZINE to be published. The year: 1986.

The year: 1992, and now is the time for the new FANTASTIC FANZINE! I guess this publishing thing must still run through my veins. I hope you enjoy this issue and drop us a line here at ARROW HQ and let us know what ya think.

Editor, Ralph Griffith

Fantastic Fanzine Vol.3, #2. Published bi-monthly by Arrow Comics.
37452 Huron River Drive. Romulus, MI 48174
All contents of this fanzine are copyrighted June, 1992 and are the sole property of Arrow Comics and it's contributors. This fanzine is intended to showcase new talent in the comic arena. What's really wild is the fact that you people read the shit we put down here.

AN EXCERPT FROM "THE RISE AND DECLINE OF THE SWINIEN EMPIRE"... "AND KING PORKIUS DID BECOME KNOWN AS A GREEDY AND UNJUST RULER, DUE TO THE HEAVY TAXING HE HAD PLACED ON ALL THE SUBJECTS IN HIS KINGDOM. IT WAS DURING ONE OF HIS COLLECTION TOURS THAT HE WAS TO MEET HIS DOWNFALL. THIS INCIDENT WOULD LATER BE KNOWN AS...

THE TALE OF

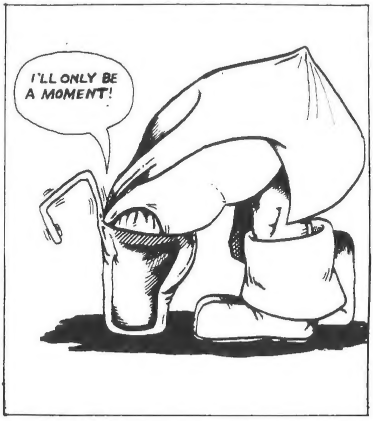
LINDY TAX AND THE OLD TIN BOX

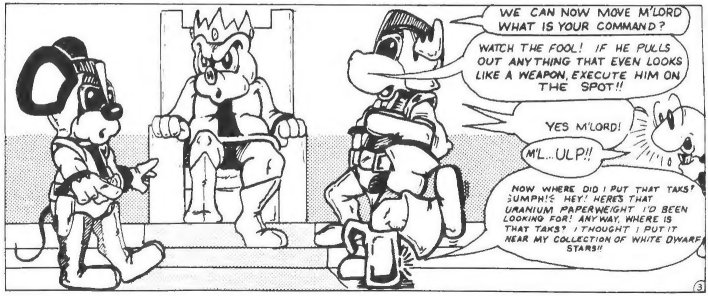
YOUR TAX IS REGISTERED AND ACCEPTED CITIZEN. NEXT!!
THANK YOU M'LORD!
FORGIVE ME M'LORD! THIS IS ALL THAT I POSSESS!!
ALL YOU HAVE?!? HMMM, YOUR ENTIRE LIFE SAVINGS KEPT IN AN OLD TIN BOX! HOW AMUSING!!
EMPTY?!? WHY?!!
MY SAVINGS WERE ALL USED UP ON THE LAST TAX! I HAVE ONLY THAT BOX! BUT...
BUT NOTHING!! IF YOU CAN'T PAY THE TAX YOU DON'T NEED TO LIVE! GUARDS!! TAKE HIM OUT AND EXECUTE HIM!!!
...BUT M'LORD THE BOX!
CRASH!
WHAT DO I NEED WITH A BEAT UP TIN BOX?!?
ZAP!
NEXT!...WA??
POOF!!
WOOOOWEEE!!! THOSE EXTA-GALACTICAL TELEPORTATION SPELLS ARE ALWAYS SUCH A THRILL!!!

GUARDS!!! SEIZE THE INTRUDER!!!
HELLO THERE! YOU THERE, THE ONE IN THE BACK, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN CHARGE HERE! I WONDER IF YOU COULD HELP ME!? I'M LOOK... HUH?!
M'LORD! GULP! I'LL COME BACK LATER!!!
GULP!
EEEP!!!
ZNG!
HOLD ON!! THAT WAS MOST IMPOLITE NOT TO LET ME FINISH!!
NOW I'M LOOKING FOR A LITTLE...
BY THE SUN!! WHAT MATTER OF BEING ARE YOU?!?
WHAT?! I DIDN'T INTRODUCE MYSELF? MY MY MY NOW I'M THE ONE THAT'S BEING IMPOLITE!!
I AM LINDYJAX! COLLECTOR OF...AH... EXTREMELY RARE ITEMS!!
AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

ME?!? WHY I AM KING PORKIUS! RULER OVER THE DULLBYRNE SYSTEM IN THE SWINIEN EMPIRE.!! I AM CURRENTLY RUNNING A TOUR OF MY VAST KINGDOM COLLECTING TAX!!
HEY! I THINK I CAN MOVE MY HANDS!!
TAKS?!?
YOU COLLECT TAKS?!? ME TOO!!

I BELIEVE I HAVE A WONDERFUL TAKS HERE IN MY BAG!!!


I'LL ONLY BE A MOMENT!

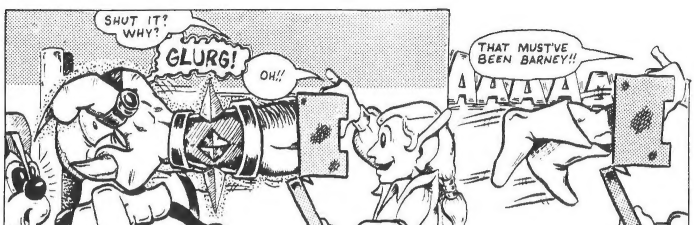

WE CAN NOW MOVE M'LORD WHAT IS YOUR COMMAND?
WATCH THE FOOL! IF HE PULLS OUT ANYTHING THAT EVEN LOOKS LIKE A WEAPON, EXECUTE HIM ON THE SPOT!!
YES M'LORD!
M'L...ULP!!
NOW WHERE DID I PUT THAT TAKS? SUMPH!'S HEY! HERE'S THAT URANIUM PAPERWEIGHT I'D BEEN LOOKING FOR! ANYWAY, WHERE IS THAT TAKS? I THOUGHT I PUT IT NEAR MY COLLECTION OF WHITE DWARF STARS!!

AHA! HERE IT IS!!!
OOPH!! HEH! HEH! I'VE GOT TO REMEMBER TO MAKE THIS OPENING A LITTLE LARGER ONE OF THESE EONS!!
ANYWAY, THIS IS THE LARGEST TAKSONICAN ABSORBITE GEM I'VE EVER BEEN ABLE TO COLLECT! HOW ABOUT YOU?
I KNOW NOTHING OF YOUR TAKSOENICIN ABSERBITITE, BUT IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE ME THAT GEM AS YOUR VISITATION TAX I'D GLADLY ACCEPT!!
VISITATION TAKS?? WAIT... TAKS?? TAX!!
TAX!!
YOU CHARGE TAX?!?
THAT'S BRUTAL! DOWN RIGHT INHUMANE!!!
BESIDES THIS GEM MUST BE WORTH TWO OF YOUR KINGDOMS AT LEAST!!
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A TAKS GEM IN ACTION? IT'S MARVELOUS! SIMPLY MAVELOUS!
IT SURE IS PRETTY!

GUARDS!! EXECUTE THIS WEIRDO!!
YES M'LORD!!
YOU SEE, UNDER THE RIGHT SPELLS IT'S CAPABLE OF ABSORBING INTENSE AMOUNTS OF ENERGY.
YEAH! JUST LIKE THAT, SEE?
FOOP
FOOP
FOOP
NOW AS I WAS SAYING BEFORE I GOT SIDETRACKED I'M CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A ... HUH?
WHY THERE IT IS!!
AT LAST! I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THAT FOR EONS AND EONS!!
WE CAN'T SHOOT HIM OR GRAB HIM M'LORD WHAT SHALL WE DO?
SHUT UP AND WATCH FOOL, WHAT ELSE?!!

IT'S FANTASTIC! IT'S WONDERFUL! IT'S GORGEOUS!! IT'S...
...DENTED?!!
ALRIGHT!! WHO DID IT?!!?
M'LORD DIDN'T YOU JUST TOSS THAT BOX OVER THERE?
SHHH!!
YOU!!!
YOU POMPOUS, OVERBEARING, INHUMANE FOOL! WHY DID YOU THROW THIS LOVELY ARTIFACT ACROSS THE ROOM?!!
BOY THAT GEM SURE IS PRETTY!
ARTIFACT? HA! THAT'S NOTHING MORE THAN AN OLD RUSTING TIN BOX!!

"OLD RUSTING TIN BOX" DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT THIS BOX CONTAINS?!!!
IT HAS NOTHING!! THAT BOX IS EMPTY!!
EMPTY?
NO!! IT CAN'T BE!!!
PHEW! IT ISN'T!
WHAT?! IT HAS TO BE EMPTY! I JUST LOOKED!!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD LOOK AGAIN. BUT I'D BE CAREFUL NO TELLING WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN!!
HUMPH!
HA!! LIKE I TOLD YOU, IT'S EMPTY!!
NO WAIT WHAT WAS THAT?
OH NO!!
SHUT THE BOX!! SHUT THE BOX!!



WHAT?
ARE YOU ONLY AWARE OF THREE DIMENSIONS? CAN'T YOU BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU SEE IN YOUR MIND OR FEEL WITH YOUR HEART?
WHAT A PITY.
YOU HAVE NO IMAGINATION.
IF YOU DID EVEN THE SMALLEST, LIKE 'YOU THERE' CAN BE A KING!
ME?!
DOESN'T ANY-ONE BELIEVE IN MAGIC ANYMORE??!
FOOP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?!!
M-M-ME?
WHE SAID I COULD BE KING!!!

AND KING WORMIL DID PROVE TO BE AN UPRIGHT AND JUST KING; RULING HIS KINGDOM WITH A FIRM BUT GENTLE HAND, AND USING TAXATION ONLY AS A MEANS OF FURTHERING THE STUDIES OF SCIENCE AND THE ARTS. THE "COLLECTOR", KNOWN ONLY AS LINDYJAX, WOULD FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN THE DECLINE OF THE SWINIEN EMPIRE. HIS ROLE WILL BE DISCUSSED IN IN SUBSEQUENT CHAPTERS.

FOOTNOTE: IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT KING WORMIL ALLOTED FUNDS TO THE STUDY OF THE NEW SCIENCE KNOWN AS "MAJIK."

LINDYJAX ©1982 RANDY ZIMMERMAN

THE END

STORY AND ART BY RANDY ZIMMERMAN

Damien's Den #2 "DC's Imp-act" Hey!

Brian Damien here, with news and abuse in the wonderful world of comic books. This time I'm turning a critical eye to the number two company in comics: DC. The Capital City Retailers Seminar was held recently. That's where Capital City (one of the largest distributors of comics) gets as many of its retailers to come to one place to catch up on the products that the publishers want them to push on the average Joe. The biggest news to come out of that was the round of enthusiastic applause that DC received for the announcement that it was cancelling its Impact line. Some say it was almost a standing ovation. Personally, I hope that DC bothers to learn from this experience, though I doubt it. Here's a few of the lessons I hope they learn from this;

1) Never promote a new line of comics by calling it a "New Universe". That particular phrase carries too many retailer scars and also too many retailer quarter boxes. Dumb move in marketing there.

2) The world IS a much better place without characters like "Dolphus" and "Arachnoid" Stupid folks, really stupid.

3) Never call a line of comics what it isn't. Impact was THE worst name they could have called this line; it built its reputation (or grave) from the retailers and fans actually expecting something bold and different (something with an impact), when all it received was a same-o same-o (or shame-o shame-o).

4) Most folks are fed up with DC's constantly reworking characters who are classics and shouldn't be tampered with. I can just see this conversation taking place: "Hey, Bill, since you're reworking Jaguar, throw some tits on him." I have to admit, though, that DC's reworking of The Ray and Black Condor will prove to be the exceptions to this rule (great work, these two!), with Legion of Superheroes, Blackhawk, Plastic Man, Kid Eternity, Hawkworld and Flash re- enforcing it.

It's time to develop a superhero world based on the classic versions of these Archie-owned characters and build up from there. What if DC had done this, and just reprinted a few of those old stories ("The Greatest Crusader Stories Ever Told"), while at the same time taking these characters in bold new directions? Archie should not have been afraid to develop this line themselves, and produce some productive POSITIVE characters who are NOT "grim and Gritty" shallow reworking of original and even, (dare I say it...YES!) FUN characters who, like Superman, deserve an unblemished place in comics history, despite their new Earth versions (some say that we are on our third Superman, while others are more apt to say our sixth). I have every confidence that DC has the talent to do this, but do they have the corporate sense (balls)? The answer to that question may lie in the fact that they are NOT cancelling the Impact universe, just most of its titles. It is my understanding that they will develop their new line of Impact books from the Crusaders teambook.

It seems that DC leased these characters from Archie with the understanding that they would produce books for TWO YEARS! Oh well, I'm sure they're thinking "one down, one to go..." at this point, instead of "Okay, that didn't work. Let's go back and reread ALL the Archie and Impact stuff and figure out where we went wrong". It's just sad that these characters will probably be unsalvageable after those two years and will remain in limbo for the next decade or two. What a waste. I have to wonder what Archie feels about what DC has done with their stable of characters (and who thought of this Punisher rip-off "Black Hood"? Without a doubt, one of Impact's most embarrassing attempts).

Also, I understand that DC projects that they will be in the number THREE spot by the end of the year if Dark Horse Comics keeps its momentum up. I wouldn't think this too unlikely or surprising. Again, with as many characters that they OWN, as much talent that they have, and with the LARGEST entertainment corporation behind them (DC is owned by Time- Warner), only poor corporate sense would project a slumping of their own company.

I thought that when the Batman movie and the barrage of licensed Bat-goods hit, that Time Warner would have a glimmer of the potential for making LOTS AND LOTS of cash from the properties that DC owns. But, alas, after , what, three years, what have we seen? A second Batman flick, a Batman cartoon (still not seeing the light of day) a Flash TV series (killed at the very HEIGHT of its popularity among EVERYBODY except the Nielsons), and the continued stagnation of their comic company.

All this from a comic company that has more potential than any other in the business. I'm sorry if I seem to be ranting, but watching waste form in the industry I love just pisses me off (don't even get me started about Marvel. THAT would take a couple of columns to cover, BELIEVE ME!).

If DC drops to number three (and they haven't figured Image into that scenario yet), there will be more lessons to learn from Dark Horse, too; lessons on creator's rights, creators royalties, and just basic planning, that I'm certain will be painfully learned (perhaps over and over again), with no one to blame but themselves, as we continue to watch them making as much of an impact as their new line of comics. ~

The Real Deal

With Dan The Man

THE REAL DEAL I

Persons 18 years old or older in this country are eligible to vote. Do you qualify? If so, are you registered? Again, if so, do you vote? People do register and then don't vote, believe me. I haven't participated in every local election. But most people are not even registered. These people and those who don't vote, don't count. Their opinions are meaningless. The next time you hear someone belly aching about some government abuse or neglect, ask them if they voted. If they tell you no, tell them to please be quiet, they don't count.

Now, the first thing you'll hear if you do pull such a stunt, is that "my vote doesn't count!?" Damn right it doesn't count. They didn't use it! Next you'll hear how big business and special interest groups with money really run things and people like us can't change that. The first part is very true, the second is garbage.

People will not be able to change this corrupt and dying system until they get involved. Voter turnouts in elections in my lifetime have been abysmal. Thirty percent is considered well done. I think it sucks. The electorate does not get involved, I believe, because of two reasons. One is apathy. People just don't care. The other is the manipulation of peoples thought process by the government through a very willing mass media.

Apathy can be cured with motivation. So let me attempt to motivate you. The government of the United States of America is four trillion dollars in debt. Mostly due to the Japanese and oil rich nations. This is not part of a trade deficit, but rather cold hard cash that is payment due in five years. The government and the media leave out the part about who we owe this money to because revolution would likely soon follow. All you hear or read is that we are four trillion in debt and left hanging at that. Nothing about how we might repay these loans or who it is we are repaying. We have no way to pay these loans currently and you will be living in the BANKRUPT STATES OF AMERICA if you don't get involved in changing the system now.

General Motors now has a corporate policy of putting signs with pictures in place of signs with words in its plant, because a significant portion of the work force there is illiterate. Not functionally illiterate, either. This misnomer has been used to brainwash people into believing that even if you can't read or write you can be a productive member of society. Hogwash, if you are illiterate you cannot function as a citizen. You will not be able to inform yourself about candidates and issues that will affect your life and your children. You can work like a slave and be taxed to support a system that would ignore you anyway. So, to the government, you are functional. America is at the bottom of the list when it comes to educating it people. Not only can we not read or write but we can't add, can't explain the distillation process or name the 50 state capitals. Why is America stupid? How about the poor treatment of teachers and the profession of teaching in this country. These people hold the future of the country in our children and they are given little help to succeed. Inner city school teachers must deal with drugs and violence in addition to the job at hand. Teachers in the suburbs have to deal with drugs, not so much violence, and parents. Parents who think their child deserves to be treated special. Whenever the child screws up the parents are at the school board blaming everything under the sun for the child's misdeeds. Parents that want to censor the teachers course materials. Parents who don't support pay raises for teachers, to keep the good ones. And all teachers have to deal with large class sizes and skimpy school budgets. Of course there are bad teachers, but I think it is mostly due to the fact that we've ignored the profession so long that a bad element can easily get in. People must vote in responsible school boards, mayors and city councils, so that when its time to divide up the taxes, schools are a number one priority.

One hundred acres of rain forest is leveled every second of every day. This has been going on for years and will continue to the extinction of the forest. From orbit, the space shuttle crews can see South America burn. The first hundred miles or so of the Mississippi river can no longer sustain marine life of any kind because of pollution. The government says that wildlife is not to be placed above peoples jobs. So a spotted owl's only home is endangered because people want to do their jobs. What JOB? Cutting down more trees. The ozone layer is getting thinner. This exposes the planet to very harmful radiation. Not that aerosol helped any, but I wonder what effect each and every one of the hundreds of nuclear explosions or accidents had. People don't let them kill the planet; its the only one we've got.

There are many more examples of problems that I could use to motivate you to vote but space and time are limited. I simply wished to point out that you're BROKE, ILLITERATE, and live in a sewer. If that doesn't motivate you, nothing will. Register to vote. Vote when it's election time. Get your neighbor to do the same and then have them get someone else. Communication is the key! We don't talk to one another enough. We get our views from the idiot box and refuse to think for ourselves. Special interests and business may have money but we've got numbers: Get involved before it's too late. Make yourself heard so that you get counted.

DAN THE MAN

Jason's Jargon

Welcome to the first installment of Jason's Jargon. In this column you'll find everything from Comics News, Movie News, Reviews, and maybe even some rumors.

One thing I found depressing while writing this column was that there was really nothing happening in the independent market. I don't mean Dark Horse, Innovation, Malibu and all those other publishers, I mean small press publishers that are in this business because they love comics and they want to contribute to the medium that has given them years of enjoyment. If your one of these small press publishers that have had a hard time getting CBG, Amazing Heroes, Comic Scene etc.... to except your existence, I encourage you to send me news on your publications. I will mention you in hopes that we'll get somebody to notice you. I am also interested in receiving any comics for review in future columns.

*DC has announced TEAM TITANS, a spin-off book featuring the TEEN TITANS from the future. There will be five different versions of the first issue, each of which will contain the origin of one of the five TEAM TITANS members. Each book will also contain a central story, that will appear in all of the issues.

*LOBO, the romantic? LOBO the lover? LOBO the heartbreaker? Has LOBO become a changed man? You'll find out in his next miniseries entitled LOBO: Blazing Chain of Love. This 3 issue miniseries will be by GIFFEN & GRANT with art by DEATHLOK artist DENYS COWAN and will deal with LOBO's sex life, and his endorsing the use of condoms!

*It looks as though DARK HORSE has picked up where FIRST PUB. left off with their recent solicitations for NEXUS: THE ORIGIN a full color, 48 page special by creators BARON & RUDE and the DARK HORSE CLASSICS series that will consist of material originally solicited as FIRST's CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED and will be continuing with all new adaptations.

*Fan favorite SIMON BISLEY has been commissioned to fully paint all 10 covers for GRENDEL: WAR CHILD, a 10 issue full color series written and inked by creator MATT WAGNER and pencilled by PATRICK McKEOWN which will be published this summer by DARK HORSE.

*Due to dropping sales, AMAZING HEROES is suspending publication for the summer. They will continue with their annual swimsuit specials and they are in the stages for a less expensive comics news and review publication to be printed sometime in the future.

*Adding to the newly formed IMAGE comics line this summer will be JIM LEE's WILD C.A.T.S.,Covert Action Team of Super beings caught in a struggle for control of the earth's future. It will be a full color, three issue miniseries priced at $1.95 with trading cards in each issue (as usual).

*DEADWORLD creator VINCENT LOCKE returns to CALIBER's popular horror title as inker for issues 25 & 26. He will be inking over FRINGE and RUST artist PHILLIP HESTER's unique pencils. While you're at it, check out VINCE's inking over at DC on their horror ti-

tle SANDMAN.

*TODD McFARLANE's IMAGE title SPAWN, hit a new record for a direct market, non- Marvel/DC comic with it's advance orders reaching more than 1.5 million copies. The previous record was set by YOUNGBLOOD #1, just a few months ago at 610,000 copies. Has anyone thought of the ego feuds that may spawn (pun intended) from one artists book having a higher print run than the other? Just a little something to think about.

*Ex-X-MEN writer CHRIS CLAREMONT has been hired to write a 12 issue ALIENS vs. PREDATOR mini-series for DARK HORSE, sometime in '92. No artist has been scheduled at this time.

*It looks like the long rumored ROGUE TROOPER movie, will start filming in late summer for a '93 release. The Mad Max style adventure will be directed by PETE (Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey) HEWITT.

*One of the recent rumors on BATMAN RETURNS is that director TIM BURTON has gone over budget, raising the expenses from $50-55 million to $90 million dollars before advertising costs. Warner executives say that there will be no advance screenings, because BURTON will be working on the film up to it's release date.

*Don't ask why but, TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES 3 is set for filming later this year for spring '93 release.

*BLADE RUNNER director RIDLEY SCOTT will be directing, STAR-WATCHER,the ani- mated MOEBIUS film for Odyssey Distributors and has already stated production in France.

*HBO has renewed it's popular horror series TALES FROM THE CRYPT for a fourth season. It will have a host of superstar actors and directors such as TOM HANKS, TREAT WILLIAMS, SUGAR RAY LEONARD, TWIGGY, ZELDA RUBENSTIEN and believe it or not, MEATLOAF!

*CONAN THE ADVENTURER will be a new syndicated cartoon series featuring a "kinder and gentler" teenage CONAN. What else is left to say but, WHY?

*The Fox BATMAN cartoon series has a 4:30 pm time slot. Sixty-five episodes have been completed for next season. FOX CHILDRENS PRESIDENT confessed that the show does have "some scary parts".

*Detroit born horror master SAM RAIMI has completed filming the long awaited third sequel to his 8mm classic EVIL DEAD. The movie will be titled ARMY OF DARKNESS: EVIL DEAD III and will be released sometime in August.

The film picks up where EVIL DEAD II left off, with ASH trapped back in 1300 A.D.. This time around ASH will be wielding a screw on hook, steel hand, and a dart crossbow when his chainsaw runs out of gas". We'll have like 40 minutes of ASH alone in a room again, "RAIMI says"; where he'll grow a second head and split in half to battle his evil incarnation." Some of the main cast include BRUCE CAMPBELL (of coursel), EMBETH DAVIDTZ and MARCUS GILBERT. The SFX will be by TONY GARDNER who provided the FX for films such as DARKMAN, THE DARK BACKWARDS and THE ADDAMS FAMILY.

*Director WALT HILL is having to change the name for LOOTERS, his movie starring rappers ICE-T and ICE CUBE. Universal Pictures is postponing the summer release date of this suspense-action film. The studio was quoted as saying "Given the event in Los Angeles, we found it necessary to avoid any misconception about it's content." The movie is about two rural firemen who cross paths with criminals, while searching for stolen loot in an abandoned East St. Louis, Ill tenement. Boy, talk about bad timing!

*MR. T showed up at the CAPITOL CITY SALES CONFERENCE to promote

his new project with Now comics. Nothing specific was said about the project except that MR. T was very excited by this new venture.

***TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES creators KEVIN EASTMAN and PETER LAIRD have announced that they will reunite as creative team to produce "CITY AT WAR" a 13 part story which will begin in MIRAGES TMNT #50 and conclude in #62.**

***TOPPS COMICS INC. has announced that their first comic publication will be an adaption of the upcoming FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA's DRACULA movie scheduled for release this fall. The comic will be in full color and will be released approximately 30 days prior to the films opening date. The creative team on the adaption will include veteran writer ROGER STERN and GOTHAM BY GAS LIGHT artist MIKE MIGNOLA.**

***GEORGE PEREZ and PETER DAVID will be collaborating on a two issue, Bookshelf, INCREDIBLE HULK story sometime in the near future.**

***PIRANHA PRESS has cancelled BEAUTIFUL STORIES FOR UGLY CHILDREN. The final issue will be #30.**

***BATMAN creator BOB KANE complained about the initial BATMAN RETURNS advertisements, sporting a Black Silhouette of the Caped Crusaders Head, saying that the head looked overly flat. Studio executives agreed and quickly ceased all advertising until KANE was satisfied with the new look.**

***According to "Inside Hollywood", ROBO COP 3 will be released in July with FRED DEKKER directing from a FRANK MILLER script and ROBERT BURKE starring as ROBO COP.**

***SPEED RACER, The popular Japanese animated cartoon is in development as a live action film from WARNER BROS.. RICHARD DONNER (Lethal Weapon) will be in the directors chair. There has been no cast or release date scheduled as of yet.**

***According to an interview with JEFFREY KATZBERG, Head of DISNEYS ANIMATION STUDIO, Disney has already started production on a sequel to FANTASIA and on WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT entitled WHO DISCOVERED ROGER RABBIT. The film explores how Roger came to Hollywood and met JESSICA and became a star. KATZBERG stated that "we are using part of the original team, although director BOB ZEMECKIS isn't involved.**

Please send all news, comics, suggestions and comments to: Jason Moore, 1108 Morris Hills Pkwy, Mt. Morris, MI 48458-2526

ADVERTISING RATES

FULL PAGE...$70.00
1/2 PAGE.....$40.00
1/4 PAGE.....$25.00

Send ad and check or money order to:
ARROW COMICS
37452 Huron River Drive
Romulus, MI., 48174

Advertiser agrees to hold ARROW COMICS harmless from and against any loss or expense from any alleged wrong doing that may arise out of the publication of such advertisements. ARROW COMICS has the right to reject or cancel any advertisement for any reason.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES

Sad news...as this issue goes to press, an article about WILLIAM MAXWELL GAINES passing crossed my desk and thought we needed to mention this to who may have missed it.

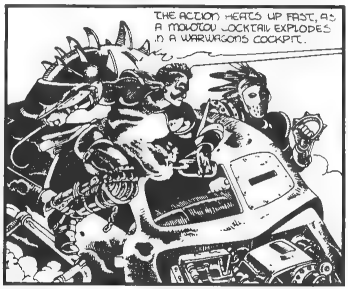
MR. GAINES as many know was the former eccentric publisher of MAD magazine. GAINES sold MAD in 1961 to PREMIERE INDUSTRIES. Through a series of sales and mergers, it wound up the property of TIME WARNER. MAD survives on only newsstand sales and paid subscriptions. MAD's print run is about 800,000 copies.

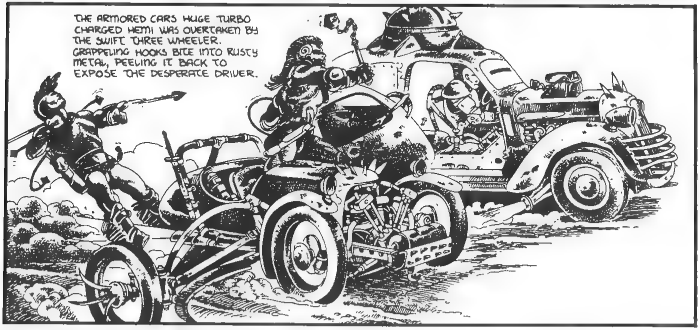
Please share in our condolences to the Gaines family. Mr Gaines's contributions to our industry will live on through Mad magazine. Sam Griffith

AGE OF MACHINES

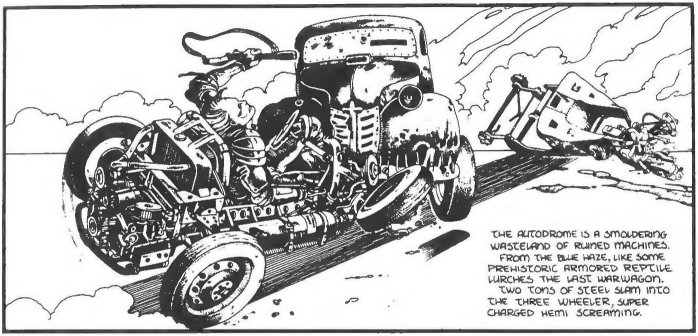
BY DARYL HUTCHINSON © 1985

THE AUTODROME ..WHERE MEN AND MACHINES BATTLE BEFORE THE ASSEMBLED TRIBES OF THE WASTELAND AND THEIR OVER-LORD, THE GREAT WHITE TOAD
LET THE GAMES BEGIN.




THE ARMORED CARS HUGE TURBO CHARGED HEMI WAS OVERTAKEN BY THE SWIFT THREE WHEELER. GRAPPLING HOOKS BITE INTO RUSTY METAL, PEELING IT BACK TO EXPOSE THE DESPERATE DRIVER.

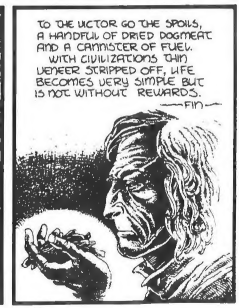
CRAZY HORSE WAS LAST SEEN DRIVING HIS MEATHOOK INTO THE NOSE OF A WILDLY CAREENING AUTO, IT ROLLED SEVEN TIMES BEFORE EXPLODING IN AN ORANGE BALL OF FLAME.
THE COMBATANTS WERE SWIFTLY BEING EVERMINATED.


THE AUTODROME IS A SMOLDERING WASTELAND OF RUINED MACHINES. FROM THE BLUE HAZE, LIKE SOME PREHISTORIC ARMORED REPTILE LURCHES THE LAST WARWAGON. TWO TONS OF STEEL SLAM INTO THE THREE WHEELER, SUPER CHARGED HEMI SCREAMING.

THE HUGE ALBINO OVERLORD GIVES A THUMBS DOWN TO A DEFEATED DRIVER.

FIRE SPITTING FROM IT'S OPEN EXHAUST PORTS, THE AUTO CHURNS ITS WAY TOWARDS AN EASY KILL.

A RUPTURED TANK OF NITROUS OXIDE AND A FIRE BELCHING TURBO CHARGER IS A POTENT MIXTURE.


TO THE VICTOR GO THE SPOILS, A HANDFUL OF DRIED DOGMEAT AND A CANNISTER OF FUEL. WITH CIVILIZATIONS THIN VENEER STRIPPED OFF, LIFE BECOMES VERY SIMPLE BUT IS NOT WITHOUT REWARDS.
—FIN—

COMIC BOOK REVEIWS

How ya' doin'? Welcome back to the fanzine that started it all for me. Fantastic Fanzine was the very first fanzine that I ever picked up, and now that it's back, I can once again feel the magic of the comic fan rising up inside of me. This is a very special issue for me, because for the first time ever, one of my articles will be published in what (I hope to be) will be a long time commitment to you as the comic fan for my personal reviews of comics that are great reading, or better left on the racks of "never sell limbo". I'm excited, you're excited, so let's start with...

YOUNGBLOOD (Image Comics). Well, at least it's in color. This is the book that Marvel fired Rob Liefeld over? This is the book that left comic fans waiting two months after its supposed arrival date? For lack of a better word, this book is CRAP! The art is almost enjoyable, except for its roughness and its lack of texture (are all of those little squiggly lines totally necessary in everything?). The art, however, is certainly better than the story line. My only word is HUH? My advice is to leave it for a true Liefeld fan, and not get caught up in all of the hoopla. I only advise this book for those fans who truly love Rob's work.

I find it very interesting and ironic that an artist who has made it to the big time wants to go back the small leagues as opposed to the guy who is in the small league and wants to make it into the majors. Don't get me wrong. I think it is very admirable that Liefeld, McFarlane, and the others want to start their own company, but if this is the kind of product we, as the fans, are to expect, then forget it. I pay my money for the quality of a book, not for the image.

SILVER SABLE (Marvel) This is actually a very interesting book that can be a mega-hit if it is handled properly. The book is centered on the main character Silver Sable, who is, in essence, a female gun for hire. She commands a team called the "Wild Pack" made up of "G.I. Joe" storm troopers, and super-villains who want to turn over a new leaf. Gregory Wright's plots are a little rough, but can easily be smoothed out in the next couple of issues. Steve Buttler's pencils are very "McFarlinish" in certain areas, and is very pleasing to the eye. This book is supposed to attract more of a female following than male. It may actually do both. The special foil cover isn't bad either.

Uh-Oh! Now I did it. I just condoned the use of a gimmick to sell a comic book. Well, actually I didn't. As a comic fan, I think these kind of covers are neat. Kind of a special bonus for purchasing the book. This doesn't mean that I buy every book with a gimmick in it. I was going to try SILVER SABLE even if it didn't have that special cover anyway. Don't get mad that Marvel is not in this business just to have fun. They're out to make money. The gimmicks are just to ensure that you, the consumer, purchase their books. If you don't like it, then don't buy it. Don't be a zombie, be a thinking man/woman.

With that said, I hope you join me next time when I review a whole mess o' Valiant titles, and explain why I think GREEN LANTERN: MOSAIC could be the sleeper title of the year. See ya (wouldn't want to be ya).

By:
L.E. Becker

LOBO'S BACK #1 Another outing of overkill and disembowelment from the creative team of, Keith Giffen, Alan Grant, and Simon Bisley. This time however, the cover is the best part. The interior looks rushed and at times down right sloppy, Simon Bisley is a great artist, but this piece did not live up to expectations. The story itself is a simplistic killing ground for Lobo The Main Man and writers.

The three in one cover gag was interesting, but a little late. The big guys have stopped with the multi cover bit (we hope). Maybe, instead of the cover they did, they should have done two different covers one on the front and one on the back, with a 60% 40% distribution rate to help sell even more of the book. The cover they did use was beautiful, but may turn away some of those fan boys who may take offense. But hey, if you can't take it, tuff, buy the book anyway. It's enjoyable and could turn into a decent series. I just don't feel the creative team was up to their best work on this first issue of the project. TILL FAN BOYS BITE. GEB...

BLACK CONDOR # 1 This book could be the next Animal Man, where as it takes off in sales before anyone realizes its potential. The story by Brian Augustyn is a simple introduction to a new concept of an old character. Yet the story is strong and extremely enjoyable. The art by Rags Morales, while at times somewhat cartoonish, is a beautiful remembrance of Berni Wrightsons early Swamp Thing. DC should be applauded for letting an artist do this style of art again, instead of making it look like all of the other favorite styles being used in the field today. At times, some of the panels and facial expressions remind me of the classic EC stuff of the late sixties and early seventies. Page 16, 17, and 18 are great, the feel of the story that is delivered is outstanding.

This book makes my list of top ten new books this year and should be a collectors item in no time. Go out and pick one or two up if you can, I have been told that a lot of stores have already sold out. That just goes to prove that exaggerated bodies and action are not the only style of art that sells. TILL THE CONDOR FLIES SOUTH. GEB...

By:
Gary E. Bishop

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

MUSIC REVIEWS

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

Alternative music is the new genre in music. Bands like the Sugarcubes, Cracker, Charlatans, UK. are gaining popularity rapidly.

There are two bands that have gained mainstream acceptance that I want to talk about. They are Pearl Jam and Nirvana. First Nirvana. This three man band is impressive both musically and lyrically. From "Lithium" and "Lounge Act" to "Smells like teen spirit" and "Drain You" these guys are raw and energetics while avoiding the trap of being shallow. I recommend the album "Nevermind" with no reservation.

Even better though is Pearl Jam. Eddie Vedders lyrics and vocals are strong and honest. "Porch" a song about being pro-choice is emotional. As are "Alive", "Jeremy" and "Why go Home". The music is riveting. Not just loud or melodic but just plain jammin. Not only do I recommend the album "Ten" but if you get to see them live do it. Eddie's stage dive from theater balconies is not to be missed. Till next time, **ROCK ON.**

By Dan Sanchez

TUNE IN TUNE OUT REPORT

Well radio fans, if anyone out there still listens to radio and not CD's all of the time, by now you have heard the newest rock station to hit the airwaves in Detroit. Of course I'm talking about 102.7 The Z-Rock. This station, that is broadcast out of Mt. Clemens, MI. via satellite from Dallas, Texas, is taking over the airwaves of Detroit. Let's face it, the song rotation that's aired blows the local stations away. while WRIF and WLLZ plays the same repetitive commercial crap over and over with the occasional good song or program, Z- Rock tosses out a mix of ass thumping rock without the wimp. Admittedly they do play Def Leppard and Van Halen (the new garbage not the D. L. Roth classics) that isn't worth the air time, it's nothing but commercial garbage. But the little teeny boppers and the followers will make it sell and keep it on the top forty and dance mixes. Hey, Van Halen had some great ass tunes, unfortunately Diamond Dave left and took the kick with him. Sammy is a great front man, nothing like Dave, but good enough for commercial crap, his best work was his solo projects and his Montrose work from years ago. now about this Def Leppard import crap, while they do have Vivian Cambell on guitar, why he's there we don't know, he has more talent in his right hand than the whole band itself. But alas it will sell and make millions. All we can hope is it takes them another four to five years for another outing.

Enough about bands for now, more later, back to rock stations. Now I've already mentioned Z-Rock, then there's 102.9 out of Ann Arbor, 104.7 out of Toledo, 88.7 or 89-X The Cutting Edge out of Windsor. Notice the connection between all of these stations. That's right, every one of them is from another city or state. Not one is from Detroit; our existing stations should be ashamed. Hell, most of the local DJ's probably listen to these other stations on their time off. Now there is one more local station I have to mention, it kick ass in all manner of ways but does not get the recognition it deserves. I'm talking about 89.3 WHFR broadcasting live from the campus of Henry Ford Community Collage. This station lets the DJ's, who are promising young students who may wish to proceed with a career in the radio business, play the style of music they like and know. We get a mixture of rock, punk, rap, pop, and heavy metal that I have heard, maybe others as well. the programs only last for a couple of hours at a time and sometimes only once a week (hint put the heavy metal on more often) but the shows are good just the same. It would be interesting to see a large radio station integrate all the styles of music at once, think of all the listening populace. So, till one of the local stations get as much balls as the ones I've mentioned I'll be tuning them out.

Back to the bands, tell me, what exactly is this shit that Genesis is putting out? Come on this stuff sucks, what happened to the classic sound, the beat that was great to sing along with of old. This shit sounds like stuff from Mike and The Mechanics but with Phil Collins on vocals. It is just another sell out, like so many others. Then we have the new Black Crowes single, come on this one's for the birds, sounds too much like the last album vocally. Now I haven't heard the entire release so I shall wait to pass final judgement. Now we look at the new Kiss single, this one scorchee from the word go. They went back to their roots with this one and come out kicking the music industry's ass after twenty two albums. I can't wait to get the entire release. Black Sabbath has a new one with Ronnie James Dio once again on vocals, and this one kicks ass. At times it sounds a lot like Dio's solo stuff, but anything is better than Seventh Star bullshit we received a couple of years ago.

News in the Judas Priest camp, lead vocalist Rob Halford has decided to embark on a solo career while staying with the band. He says he has some ass crunching songs he wants to do but does not wish to compromese the way they are recorded for the Priest. He has also started his own record label for aspiring artists who are ignored by the big guys of rock. Good luck to Roband the Priest Beast. Dee Snyder is also back in the news with a new band called the Widow Makers and should have a new release in July. Fans of Twisted Sister should enjoy it, if the sound and quality are as good as before. Poison has a new ax-man, Richie Kortzen will take over for the departed C.C. DeVille, this is good news for Poison, they now have an ax-man worth the time and money. We should be hearing from them real soon and hear a lot from Kortzen

Now my biggest question this issue is what the hell is going on in the minds of Motley Crew? Getting rid of Vince Neil was the worst thing they could have done; the band's career is over. It's the same as when Diamond Dave left Van Halen, the showman is gone, the man who made the sound is no longer there. Yeah, I know that Nikki writes most of the music, but, get real, Vince was the man who made the sound. The best part of the whole situation is that Vince has gone on to start a great solo career and has a better band to boot. Tommy Shaw and Jack Blades are better musicians than Nikki Sycx or Mick Marrs will ever be. He did however lose the use of one of the best drummers in the industry, still his solo career will do much better than the Crew will fare in the future without him. Good luck to Vince. Nikki and the boys can take a hike and suck wind.

Now remember my name Chuck Disser and my Tune In The Tune Out Report, you will be hearing more from my mouth soon. Write and give your views, I'll tell you if they suck or not. So till I have more to bitch about or news to tell.... **TAKE IT SLOW AND LET YOUR MEAT LOAF IN THE RIGHT SPOT... BUT PLEASE, BE SAFE, BEE COOL, AND STAY ALIVE.**